

MEMORANDUM

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

INFORMATION

September 22, 1975

DOS REVIEWED 21 MAR 2011 NO OBJECTION TO DECLASSIFICATION

OSD REVIEWED 22-Mar-2011: NO OBJECTION TO DECLASSIFICATION. *BD*

MEMORANDUM FOR: GENERAL SCOWCROFT
FROM: LES ANKA *for*
SUBJECT: Conference Action on Military
Procurement Authorization Bill

Last week, House and Senate conferees reached agreement on a second conference report for the DOD procurement authorization bill. The first conference report was defeated by the Senate 48-42 in late July after an attack by the Senate Budget Committee.

The new conference report makes an additional cut of \$250 million, to a total of \$25.5 billion for fiscal year 1976, a reduction of 10.7% in the Administration's request.

This quarter of a billion dollar cut was spread among five programs:

Strike Cruiser

The House had originally authorized \$60 million for advance procurement of long-leadtime components for a nuclear powered strike cruiser in fiscal year 1976. The Senate had made no such authorization. After extensive deliberation in the earlier conference and agreement by the House to delete a \$368 million nuclear frigate, the Senate conferees yielded to the House by including the long lead funding for the nuclear strike cruiser.

In the new conference, all funding--\$60 million--for the nuclear strike cruiser was deleted.

AWACS

The first conference authorized all six aircraft but cut the funding request by \$40 million to \$380.5 million. The second conference cut an additional \$30 million for a program total in fiscal year 1976 of \$350.5 million. Also the conference report recommended that AWACS spares be reduced by \$30 million.

F-15 Air Force Fighter

The first conference authorized the full F-15 program in fiscal year 1976. In the new conference, however, the House receded to the Senate position and reduced the F-15 program by \$22.3 million.

Patrol Frigate

The first conference approved the 10 ships at a cost of \$887.5 million. The new conference eliminated one patrol frigate costing \$85 million, leaving the authorization at 9 patrol frigates totaling \$802.5 million.

Air Force Aircraft Spares

The House initially trimmed \$30 million from the \$1.1 billion request for Air Force aircraft spare parts in fiscal year 1976. The Senate voted \$672.2 million for fiscal year 1976, a reduction of roughly \$400 million. The first conference approved \$872.2 million for fiscal year 1976.

The new conference further reduced spares, including the AWACS by \$52.7 million to a level of \$819.5 million.

~~A Senate vote is expected Wednesday.~~